To F. J. Garrison.

EDITORIAL ROOMS of the CHRISTIAN UNION,

No. 27 PARK PLACE,

HENRY WARD BEECHER, *Editor.*
J. B. FORD & CO., *Publishers.*

New York, Feb. 2, 1878

Dear Frank,

Thanks for your letter. I am glad you and your father liked my reply to Dr. Bacon. I meant to spike his guns. In the whole Protestant church there is no more cunning old Jesuit than he. I do not think your father needs any further vindication in the Christian Union, and should not like to print a formal and controversial reply from him to Dr. Bacon; but I should be glad if, in a quiet way, he would take occasion, from what has appeared in the Christian Union re- lating to himself and the early days, to explain his attitude, and that of his associates, to our readers, and show how the anti-slavery movement was a vin-

dictation of Christianity against those wh
were betraying it. Incidentally it would
be a most effective reply to Dr. Bax
though not that in form.

I will do my best to hunt up
the Photographs you seek, but cannot
promise you more than my own.

It is my intention, if life is spared
to complete my sketches.

Mrs. Johnson and myself are
remarkably well, and baby is in perfect
health, and as happy a little person as
you ever saw.

With love to all the household
and kindred, I am

Yours lovingly,

River Johnston.

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My Dear Garrison,

I think the Christian Union would be bound to print any fair reply to Dr. Bacon's attack upon you that you may think it needful to write. But, as I have already said in a letter to Frank, written before yours was received, I should prefer to have you make Dr. Bacon the occasion rather than the subject of an article. My chief might think, possibly, that the controversy being primarily between Dr. Bacon and myself, had gone far enough; but I am sure he would recognize the propriety of giving you a hearing, on general grounds,

in behalf of the movement which began
with you. I don't believe Dr. Bacon
will peck again, but I may be mis-
taken. He's a cunning old fox, and I
took special pleasure in answering
him. I hope you will write up
you feel moved, and of course
without restriction from me. Never-
theless, I venture to suggest that
your article would have all the more
weight, &, while finding its occasion
in what Dr. Bacon has said, it does
not take the shape of a formal reply
to him. You shall be paid for any-
thing you may choose to send about
the origin and spirit of the Anti-Slavery
movement. Indeed nothing would please
me better than to give you a hearing
on that subject.

Yours, affectionately,

Oliver Johnson.